AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

Listing of the Claims

5 Pending Claims

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1.- 3. (canceled)

- 4. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 24 [[23]] wherein the predominant component comprises alkanes containing from 5 to about 15 carbon atoms of which at least about 85 percent are normal alkanes.
- 5. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 24 [[23]] further comprising an effective amount of one or more fuel additives which enhance desired fuel properties.
 - 6. (canceled)
- 7. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 24 wherein the fuel exhibits a suitable flash point of at least 49°C.
- 8. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 24 further comprising an effective amount of one or more Diesel fuel additives selected from the group consisting of copolymers of ethylene and vinyl acetate, which enhances cold flow properties of Diesel fuel.

9 - 10 (canceled)

11. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 25 26 [[10]] wherein at least 5 percent of the oxygen is contained in cyclic benzylic diketones.

- 12. (previously presented) The composition according to claim 11 further comprising an effective amount of one or more fuel additives which enhance desired fuel properties.
- 13. (original) A composition for fuel or blending component for fuels, which are liquid at ambient conditions, which composition comprises: as a predominant component petroleum distillates which contain less than 15 ppm sulfur, and oxygen-containing organic compounds derived from natural petroleum in amounts such that the oxygen content of the fuel is in a range from about 0.2 percent to about 10 percent oxygen, with the proviso that at least 10 percent of the oxygen is contained in aryl oxygenates represented by

where R₁ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and hydrocarbon radicals containing from 1 to about 10 carbon atoms, x is an integer from 1 to 4; R₂ are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, carbonyl oxygen and organic moieties containing from 1 to about 10 carbon atoms, and y is an integer from 1 to 3.

- 14. (canceled)
- 25 23. (canceled)

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24. (currently amended) A fuel for use in compression ignition internal combustion engines, comprising: as a predominant component organic distillates derived from natural petroleum, and one or more oxygen-containing organic compounds in amounts such that

the oxygen content of the fuel is in a range from about 0.2 percent to about 10 percent oxygen with the proviso that

where (IBP) composition is the initial boiling point of the composition and (IBP) distillates, is the initial boiling point of the distillates, and wherein the fuel exhibits a suitable flash point of at least 38° C. as measure by ASTM D93, and contains less than 15 ppm sulfur.

25. (currently amended) A fuel for use in compression [[spark]] ignition internal combustion engines, comprising: as a predominant component organic distillates derived from natural petroleum, and one or more oxygen-containing organic compound selected from the group consisting of aryl oxygenates of type II and type III represented by

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in amounts such that the oxygen content of the fuel is in a range from about 0.2 percent to about 10 percent oxygen, and wherein the fuel exhibits a suitable Reid vapor pressure of at least 6 psi and contains less than 15 ppm sulfur.

25 26. (currently amended) A composition for fuel or blending component for fuels which are liquid at ambient conditions, which

composition comprises: as a predominant component organic distillates which contain less than 15 ppm sulfur, and oxygen-containing organic compounds derived from natural petroleum in amounts such that the oxygen content of the fuel is in a range from about 0.2 percent to about 10 percent oxygen with the proviso that

where (IBP) composition is the initial boiling point of the composition and (IBP) distillates, is the initial boiling point of the distillates, wherein the predominant component is a mixture of organic compounds derived from natural petroleum, and wherein at least 10 percent of the oxygen is contained in cyclic benzylic ketones.

27. (currently amended) The composition according to claim 13 wherein at least 10 percent of the oxygen is further contained in Type II aryl oxygenates represented by

where R is hydrogen or a hydrocarbon radical containing from 1 to about 10 carbon atoms.